

The 30th Day of March

Our venerable father John “Climacus,” author of “The Ladder.”

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 3 stichera in Tone 8: *To the melody, “O most glorious wonder...”*

O ven’rable father John, /
Thou didst continually proclaim the praises of God, /
Teaching all with thy living and divinely-inspired words, /
From which flow streams of divine grace; ///
By them thou wast richly blessed, O wise one. /

O most glorious father John, /
Having cleaned thy soul with the torrents of thy tears, /
Thou didst gain God’s mercy by standing vigils through the night /
And thou didst soar aloft as if borne on divine wings, /
To the place where thou dost delight in His love and beauty ///
Ceaselessly rejoicing with thy fellow strugglers, O most wise one /

O most ven’rable father John, /
Allowing thy mind to take flight on wings of faith to God, /
Thou didst come to distain the unstable confusion of this world /
And taking up thy cross /
Thou didst follow after Him who seeth all things /
And didst bind the unbridled passions of the body to the reasoning of the mind /
Through thy ascetic labors and the power of the divine Spirit.

If it be a Saturday or a Sunday, we sing:

Glory..., in Tone 6:

O venerable father John /
Thine instructions have gone out into all the earth; /
Destroying the legions of demons; /
By this thou hast found the reward of thy labors in heaven; /
And attained to the ranks of the angels, /
Whose life thou didst blamelessly emulate. /
And having great boldness before Christ God ///
Entreat Him that peace be granted to our souls.

But if it be a Fast day, we sing:

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in Tone 8:

O vessel of virginity, /
 Most pure and beautiful dwelling place of God, /
 I beseech thee, O pure one: /
 Comfort my soul poisoned by the venom of the serpent /
 And mortified by my transgressions, /
 That I may ever glorify thee /
 Together with all the faithful who magnify thee ///
 O divinely joyous one.

Or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: *(to the melody, “O most glorious wonder...”)*

“**W**hat is this sight that I see, /
 What do mine eyes behold, O Master? /
 Thou, Who sustainest all creation, lifted up upon the Tree, /
 Dost die granting life to all,” /
 Cried the Theotokos, weeping, when she beheld upon the Cross ///
 The God-man who had ineffably shone forth from her.

Or Dogmatic Theotokion if a Resurrection service.

The Apostikha from the Octoechos, and:

Glory... Tone 8

We honor thee as an instructor of a multitude of monastics, /
 O our father, John, /
 For we truly learned the right path by following in thy steps. /
 Blessèd art thou, for by thy labors thou didst put enemy to shame, /
 O converser with the angels, /
 And companion of the ven’rable and the righteous; /
 With whom thou dost now commune ///
 Pray with them to the Lord, that He have mercy on our souls.

The Troparion of the Saint, Tone 8:

Thine abundant tears made the wilderness sprout and bloom /
 And thy suffering made thy labors fruitful a hundredfold. /
 Thou hast become a shining torch over all the world. ///
 O our holy father John, pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.

Matins

The Canon of Saint John Climacus, Tone 8,

the composition Ignatius. — incomplete as of 2/2013

VENERABLE JOHN “CLIMACUS” (of “The Ladder”)

The Kontakion, Tone 4: *To the melody, “Thou hast appeared...”*

The Lord truly set thee on the heights of abstinence /
To be a guiding star /
Showing the way to the universe, ///
O our father and teacher, John.

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